

“DATE” Data Type in Oracle For Project 6

Some students had encountered problems with “DATE” type for Project 6. For example, the data field for ORDER_DATE should be defined as a “DATE” type.

```
CREATE TABLE CUST_ORDER
(ORDER_ID int NOT NULL ,
ORDER_DATE Date,
PAR_METHOD varchar(10),
CUST_ID int NOT NULL,
ORDER_SOURCE_ID Varchar(1),
Constraint cust_order_PK PRIMARY KEY(ORDER_ID),
Constraint FK_Customer FOREIGN KEY(CUST_ID) References
Customer(CUST_ID) );
```

However, they were not able to insert date data into the CUST_ORDER table. In other words, they failed at the following action:

```
INSERT INTO CUST_ORDER VALUES
(1057,'05/29/2016','CC',107,2);
```

Some students were trying to find a work-around method to make it work, by defining the ORDER_DATE to VARCHAR2 data type. That is wrong. I can see your pain.

To make the “INSERT” statement work, one of the solution is to add the following statement to change the “DATE” data format for the session:

```
alter session set NLS_DATE_FORMAT='mm/dd/yyyy';
```

I tested it and it worked.

In summary, you need the following to make them work together:

```
alter session set NLS_DATE_FORMAT='mm/dd/yyyy';
```

```
INSERT INTO CUST_ORDER VALUES
```

```
(1057,'05/29/2016','CC',107,2);
```

```
...
```